This list includes resources and websites to assist school food authorities (SFAs) with meeting the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) meal pattern and crediting requirements for grades K-12 in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP, and Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) of the NSLP. For information on resources for the preschool meal patterns, review the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) Resources for the Preschool Meal Patterns.

For links to information on federal and state requirements and guidance, visit the CSDE's Program Guidance for School Nutrition Programs webpages. Additional resource lists are available on the CSDE's Resources for Child Nutrition Programs webpage. For additional guidance, contact the CSDE's school nutrition programs staff.

### Section 1 - General Program Guidance

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Afterschool Snack Program (CSDE):
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https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Afterschool-Snack-Program

Child Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Child-Nutrition-Programs

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Documents & Resources (USDA webpage):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/resources

Forms for School Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Forms-for-School-Nutrition-Programs

Legislation and Regulations for Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Laws-and-Regulations-for-Child-Nutrition-Programs

National School Lunch Program (CSDE webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/National-School-Lunch-Program

Nutrition Education (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Nutrition-Education

Operational Memoranda for School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Lists/Operational-Memoranda-for-School-Nutrition-Programs

Program Guidance for School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Program-Guidance-School-Nutrition-Programs

Resources for Child Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Resources-for-Child-Nutrition-Programs

School Breakfast Program (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/School-Breakfast-Program

The School Day Just Got Healthier (USDA webpage):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/school-day-just-got-healthier-toolkit

Training for Child Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Training-for-Child-Nutrition-Programs

### **Section 2 – Meal Pattern Topics**

Child Nutrition (CN) Labels | Comparison Charts | Crediting Documentation
Dietary Specifications | Fruits Component | Grains Component
Meal Modifications for Special Diets | Meal Patterns | Menu Planning
Meat/Meat Alternates Component | Milk Component | Offer versus Serve (OVS)
Product Formulation Statements | Production Records | Vegetables Component

### **Child Nutrition (CN) Labels**

Authorized Manufacturers and Labels (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cnlabeling/usdausdc-authorized-labels-and-manufacturers

Child Nutrition (CN) Labeling Program (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CNlabel.pdf

CN Labeling Program (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/labeling-program

Child Nutrition (CN) Labels (CSDE's Crediting Foods for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition-Programs#CNlabels

Food Manufacturers/Industry (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cnlabeling/food-manufacturersindustry

USDA Memo SP 11-2015v2, CACFP 10-2015 and SFSP 13-2015: CN Labels Copied with a Watermark Acceptable Documentation:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/cn-labels-copied-watermark-acceptable-documentation

USDA Memo SP 27-2015, CACFP 09-2015 and SFSP 12-2015: Administrative Review Process Regarding the Child Nutrition (CN) Label, Watermarked CN Label and Manufacturer's Product Formulation Statement:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/administrative-review-process-regarding-child-nutrition-cn-label

### **Comparison Charts**

Comparison of Meal Pattern Requirements for Child Nutrition Programs (USDA): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CNPMealPatternComparison.pdf

Comparison of Meal Pattern Requirements for Preschool and Grades K-12 in the Afterschool Snack Program of the NSLP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/ComparisonPreschoolGradesK-12ASP.pdf

Comparison of Meal Pattern Requirements for Preschoolers and Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Preschool/ComparisonPreschoolGradesK-12SNP.pdf

Comparison of Meal Pattern Requirements for the Grains Component in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/ComparisonGrainCreditingSNP.pdf

Comparison of Meal Pattern Requirements for the Milk Component in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/ComparisonMilkRequirementsSNP.pdf

How Do They Compare? Child Nutrition Programs' Meal Pattern Requirements (USDA): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CNPMealPatternComparison.pdf

### **Crediting Documentation**

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Accepting Processed Product Documentation in the NSLP and SBP:
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https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/AcceptDocumentationSNP.pdf

Crediting Commercial Processed Products for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE's Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition- Programs #CommercialProducts

Crediting Foods Prepared on Site for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE's

Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition- Programs #PreparedonSite

Crediting Summary Charts for the ASP Meal Pattern for Grades K-12 (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/Crediting\_Summary\_Charts\_ASP\_Grades\_K-12.pdf

Crediting Summary Charts for the Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 in the School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Crediting\_Summary\_Charts\_SNP\_Grades\_K-12.pdf

Exhibit A Grains Tool (USDA's Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs):

https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/ExhibitATool/Index

Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-for-child-nutrition-programs

Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs: Training Resources (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-training-resources

Recipe Analysis Workbook (USDA's Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-interactive-web-based-tool

Standardized Recipe Form for School Nutrition Programs:

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/StandardizedRecipeSchools.doc

Standardized Recipes ("Related Resources" section of the CSDE's Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition-Programs#StandardizedRecipes

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Tips for Evaluating a Manufacturer's Product Formulation Statement (USDA):
   https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/
   manufacturerPFStipsheet.pdf
USDA Memo TA-2010 (v.3): Guidance for Accepting Processed Product Documentation for Meal
   Pattern Requirements:
   https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/TA07-2010v3os.pdf
Yield Study Form for Child Nutrition Programs (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/YieldStudy.pdf
Dietary Specifications for Grades K-12
Dietary Specifications (Nutrition Standards for School Meals) (CSDE's Meal Patterns for
   Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Program webpage):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Patterns-School-Nutrition-
   Programs/Documents#DietarySpecifications
Get the Facts: Sources of Sodium in Your Diet (CDC):
   https://www.cdc.gov/salt/pdfs/Sources-of-Sodium.pdf
Implementation Timeline for the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program
   Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/MealPattern/
   ImplementationTimeline.pdf
Lowering Sodium in School Foods (American Heart Association):
   https://www.heart.org/idc/groups/heart-public/@wcm/@adv/documents/
   downloadable/ucm_472940.pdf
Reducing Sodium in Children's Diets infographic (CDC):
   https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/children-sodium/infographic.html
Reducing Sodium in the Diets of American Children (AHA):
   http://www.heart.org/idc/groups/heart-public/@wcm/@adv/documents/
   downloadable/ucm_433027.pdf
Sodium and Children (CDC):
   https://www.cdc.gov/salt/sodium_and_children.htm
Sodium Reduction Timeline for NSLP and SBP Meal Patterns (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/MealPattern/SodiumTimeline.pdf
Tools for Schools: Reducing Sodium (USDA):
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https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/tools-schools-sodium

USDA Final Rule (83 FR 63775): Child Nutrition Programs: Flexibilities for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Requirements:

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-12-12/pdf/2018-26762.pdf

Weekly Calorie Ranges for School Meals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/MealPattern/

Calorie\_Ranges\_NSLP\_SBP.pdf.

What's Shaking: Creative Ways to Boost Flavor with Less Sodium (USDA):

https://theicn.org/cnss/about-whats-shaking/

### **Fruits Component**

Crediting Juice for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditJuiceSNPgradesK-12.pdf

Crediting Smoothies for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditSmoothiesSNPgradesK-12.pdf

CSDE Operational Memorandum No. 07-19: Compliance Issues with the Vegetables and Fruits Components for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP:

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Memos/OM2019/OM07-19.pdf

Food Buying Guide Section 3: Overview of Crediting Requirements for the Fruits Component (USDA):

https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/Content/TablesFBG/USDA\_FBG\_Section3\_Fruits.pdf

Food Buying Guide Section 3: Yield Table for Fruits (USDA):

 $https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/files/Reports/USDA\_FBG\_Section3\_FruitsYield Table.pdf$ 

Fruits Component for Grades K-12 ("Documents/Forms" section of CSDE's Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition-Programs/Documents#Fruits

Portion Guide for Fresh Fruits (Start with Half a Cup):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SWHAC/PortionGuideFruit85x14.pdfProduct

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in School Meal Programs (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/

PFS\_Veg\_Subgroups\_Fruits\_Fillable\_508.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in School Meal Programs: Completed Sample for Vegetables (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFSsamplevegetables.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in School Meal Programs: Completed Sample for Fruits (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFSsamplefruits.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, and NSLP Afterschool Snacks (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Total\_Veg\_Fruits\_Fillable\_508.pdf

Tools for Schools: Offering Fruits and Vegetables (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/tools-schools-offering-fruits-and-vegetables

USDA Memo SP 34-2019, CACFP 15-2019 and SFSP 15-2019: Crediting Coconut, Hominy, Corn Masa, and Masa Harina in the Child Nutrition Programs:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/crediting-coconut-hominy-corn-masa-and-masa-harina-child-nutrition-programs

USDA Memo SP 40-2019, CACFP 17-2019 and SFSP 17-2019: Smoothies Offered in Child Nutrition Programs:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/smoothies-offered-child-nutrition-programs

Webinar: Crediting Vegetable Noodles and Coconut in the Child Nutrition Programs (USDA): https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/crediting-vegetable-noodles-and-coconut-child-nutrition-programs

### **Grains Component**

Calculation Methods for Grain Ounce Equivalents for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE): https://portal.ct.gov/-

/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/GrainCalculationSNPgradesK-12.pdf

Calculation Methods for Grains/Breads Servings for Grades K-12 in the ASP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/GrainsBreadsCalculationASP\_gradesK-12.pdf

Comparison of Meal Pattern Requirements for the Grains Component in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/ComparisonGrainCreditingSNP.pdf

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Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/
   CreditCerealsSNPgradesK-12.pdf
Crediting Enriched Grains in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/
   CreditEnrichedGrainsSNP.pdf
Crediting Whole Grains in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditWholeGrainsSNP.pdf
Exhibit A Grains Tool (USDA's Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs):
   https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/ExhibitATool/Index
Exhibit A: Grain Requirements for Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):
   https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/Content/TablesFBG/ExhibitA.pdf
Food Buying Guide Exhibit A Grains Tool (USDA):
   https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/ExhibitATool/Index
Food Buying Guide Section 4: Overview of Crediting Requirements for the Grains Component
   (USDA):
   https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/Content/TablesFBG/USDA_FBG_Section4_
   Grains.pdf
Food Buying Guide Section 4: Yield Table for Grains (USDA):
   https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/files/Reports/USDA_FBG_Section4_
   GrainsYieldTable.pdf
Grain Ounce Equivalents for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/
   GrainsOzEqSNPgradesK-12.pdf
Grains Component for Grades K-12 ("Documents/Forms" section of CSDE's Crediting Foods in
   School Nutrition Programs webpage):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition- Programs/
   Documents#Grains
Grains/Breads Component for Grades K-12 in the ASP ("Documents/Forms" section of the
   CSDE's ASP webpage):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Afterschool-Snack-Program/
   Documents#GrainsBreadsK12
Grains/Breads Servings for Grades K-12 in the ASP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/GrainsBreadsServingsASP_gradesK-
   12.pdf
```

Meeting the Whole Grain-rich Requirement for the NSLP and SBP Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/WGRRequirementSNPgradesK-12.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains in Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Grains\_Oz\_Eq\_Fillable\_508.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains in Child Nutrition Programs

- Completed Sample (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/

PFS\_Example\_Grains\_Oz\_Eq.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains/Breads Servings in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, and NSLP Afterschool Snacks (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Grains-Breads\_Servings\_Fillable\_508.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains/Breads Servings in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, and NSLP Afterschool Snacks – Completed Sample (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Example\_Grains-Breads\_Servings.pdf

Product Formulation Statements (CSDE's Crediting Foods for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition-Programs#PFS

Recipe Analysis Workbook (USDA's Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs): https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-interactive-web-based-tool

USDA Memo SP 23-2019, CACFP 10-2019 and SFSP 09-2019: Crediting Popcorn in the Child Nutrition Programs:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/crediting-popcorn-child-nutrition-programs

USDA Memo SP 30-2012: Grain Requirements for the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/grain-requirements-national-school-lunch-program-and-school-breakfast-program

USDA Memo SP 34-2019, CACFP 15-2019 and SFSP 15-2019: Crediting Coconut, Hominy, Corn Masa, and Masa Harina in the Child Nutrition Programs:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/crediting-coconut-hominy-corn-masa-and-masa-harina-child-nutrition-programs

Webinar: Exhibit A Grains Tool to the Rescue (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/exhibit-grains-tool-rescue

Webinar: How to Maximize the Exhibit A Grains Tool (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/how-maximize-exhibit-grains-tool

Whole Grain Resource for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/whole-grain-resource-national-school-lunch-and-school-breakfast-programs-0

### **Meal Modifications for Special Diets**

Accommodating Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/

Special\_Diets\_Guide\_SNP.pdf

Allowable Milk Substitutes for Children without Disabilities in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/Milk\_Substitutes\_SNP.pdf

CSDE Operational Memo No. 13-17: Requirements for Meal Modifications in the School Nutrition Programs:

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Memos/OM2017/OM13-17.pdf

CSDE Operational Memo No. 22-15: Statements Supporting Accommodations for Children with Disabilities in the Child Nutrition Programs:

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Memos/OM2015/OM22-15.pdf

Guidance and Instructions: Medical Statement for Meal Modifications in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/Medical\_Statement\_SNP\_Instructions.pdf

Guidance and Instructions: Medical Statement for Meal Modifications in School Nutrition Programs (Spanish): Orientación e instrucciones: Declaración médica para la modificación de alimentos en los programas de nutrición escolar (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/Medical\_Statement\_SNP\_Instructions\_Spanish.pdf

Guide: Accommodating Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/SpecialDietsGuide.pdf

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Managing Food Allergies in the Cafeteria: The Role of School Food Service Managers and Staff
   (CSDE Presentation): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/
   Managing_Food_Allergies_Cafeteria_SNP_Presentation.pdf
Meal Modifications in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE Presentation:):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/
   Meal_Modifications_SNP_Presentation.pdf
Medical Statement for Meal Modifications in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/Medical_Statement_SNP.pdf
Medical Statement for Meal Modifications in School Nutrition Programs (Spanish): Declaración
   médica para la modificación de alimentos en los programas de nutrición escolar (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/
   Medical_Statement_SNP_Spanish.pdf
Resource List for Special Diets in Child Nutrition Programs (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/Resources/Resources_Special_Diets.pdf
Resources for Special Diets in Child Nutrition Programs (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Special-Diets-in-School-Nutrition-Programs/Documents
Self-assessment of Local Practices for Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/
   Assessment_Special_Diets_Schools.pdf
Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Special-Diets-in-School-Nutrition-Programs
Summary of Requirements for Accommodating Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs
   (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/Special_Diets_Chart_SNP.pdf
```

#### **Meal Patterns**

Afterschool Snack Program Meal Pattern for Grades K-12 (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/MealPatternASPgradesK-12.pdf

Dietary Specifications (Nutrition Standards for School Meals) (CSDE's Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Patterns-School-Nutrition- Programs/Documents#DietarySpecifications

Meal Pattern Exemption for Residential Child Care Institutions (RCCIs) with Multiple Age Groups ("Documents/Forms" section of CSDE's Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Patterns-School-Nutrition-Programs/Documents#RCCIexemption

Meal Pattern Training Materials (CSDE webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Pattern-Training-Materials

Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Patterns-School-Nutrition-Programs

Menu Planning Guide for School Meals for Grades K-12 (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Menu-Planning-Guide-for-School-Meals

Noncreditable Foods for Grades K-12 in the ASP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/NoncreditableFoodsASP\_gradesK-12.pdf

Noncreditable Foods for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/NoncreditableFoodsSNPgradesK-12.pdf

Nutrition Standards for School Meals (USDA webpage):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/nutrition-standards-school-meals

Nutrition Standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs (Final Rule 77 FR 4087):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/fr-012612

USDA Final Rule (81 FR 24347): CACFP Meal Pattern Revisions Related to the Healthy, Hunger- Free Kids Act of 2010:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/fr-042516

USDA Memo SP 38-2019: Meal Requirements under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Q&As for Program Operators:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/meal-requirements-under-national-school-lunch-program-and-school-breakfast-program

### **Meat/Meat Alternates Component**

Checklist for Evaluating Manufacturer Product Formulation Statements (Product Analysis) for Meat/Meat Alternate (M/MA) Products (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/reviewer\_checklist.pdf

Crediting Commercial Meat/Meat Alternate Products in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditCommercialMMASNP.pdf.

Crediting Deli Meats in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditDeliSNP.pdf

Crediting Legumes in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditLegumesSNP.pdf

Crediting Nuts and Seeds in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditNutsSNP.pdf

Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditTofuSNP.pdf

Crediting Yogurt for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditYogurtSNPgradesK-12.pdf

Food Buying Guide Section 1: Overview of Crediting Requirements for the Meat/Meat Alternates Component (USDA):

https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/Content/TablesFBG/USDA\_FBG\_Section1\_MeatsAndMeatAlternates.pdf

Food Buying Guide Section 1: Yield Table for Meat/Meat Alternates (USDA):

https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/files/Reports/USDA\_FBG\_Section1\_MeatsAndMeatAl ternatesYieldTable.pdf

Meat/Meat Alternates Component for Grades K-12 ("Documents/Forms" section of CSDE's Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition-Programs/Documents#MMA

Meat/Meat Alternates Component for Grades K-12 in the ASP ("Documents/Forms" section of the CSDE's Afterschool Snack Program webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Afterschool-Snack-Program/Documents#MMAK12

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Meats/Meat Alternates (M/MA) in Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Meats-Meat\_Alternates\_Fillable\_508.pdf

- Questions and Answers on Alternate Protein Products (APP) (USDA):
  - https://www.fns.usda.gov/questions-and-answers-alternate-protein-products-app
- Requirements for Alternate Protein Products in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):
  - https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/APPRequirementsSNP.pdf
- Reviewer's Checklist for Evaluating Manufacturer Product Formulation Statements for Meat/Meat Alternates (USDA):
  - https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/reviewer\_checklist.pdf
- USDA Memo SP 21-2019, CACFP 08-2019 and SFSP 07-2019: Crediting Shelf-Stable, Dried and Semi-Dried Meat, Poultry, and Seafood Products in the Child Nutrition Programs: https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/crediting-shelf-stable-dried-and-semi-dried-meat-poultry-and-seafood-products-child-nutrition
- USDA Memo SP 24-2019, CACFP 11-2019 and SFSP 10-2019: Crediting Surimi Seafood in the Child Nutrition Programs: https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/crediting-surimi-seafood-child-nutrition-programs:
  - https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/crediting-surimi-seafood-child-nutrition-programs
- USDA Memo SP 25-2019, CACFP 12-2019 and SFSP 11-2019: Crediting Tempeh in the Child Nutrition Programs:
  - https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/crediting-tempeh-child-nutrition-programs
- USDA Memo SP 26-2019, CACFP 13-2019 and SFSP 12-2019: Crediting Pasta Products Made of Vegetable Flour in the Child Nutrition Programs:
  - https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/crediting-pasta-products-made-vegetable-flour-child-nutrition-programs
- USDA Memo SP 40-2019, CACFP 17-2019 and SFSP 17-2019: Smoothies Offered in the Child Nutrition Programs:
  - https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/smoothies-offered-child-nutrition-programs
- USDA Memo SP 53-2016 and CACFP 21-2016: Crediting Tofu and Soy Yogurt Products in the School Meal Programs and the CACFP:
  - http://www.fns.usda.gov/crediting-tofu-and-soy-yogurt-products-school-meal-programs-and-cacfp
- Webinar: Additional Meat/Meat Alternates Options for CNPs: Crediting Tempeh and Surimi (USDA):
  - https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/additional-meat-meat-alternate-tempeh-and-surimi
- Webinar: Moving Forward: Update on Food Crediting in Child Nutrition Programs with Guidance for Dried Meat Products (USDA):
  - https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/moving-forward-update-food-crediting-dried-meat-products

### **Menu Planning**

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Afterschool Snack Program Menu Form for Grades K-12 (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/Forms/MenuFormASP_gradesK-12.docx
Afterschool Snack Program Sample Menu for Grades K-12 (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/SampleMenuASP_gradesK-12.pdf
Choking Prevention (CSDE's Food Safety for Child Nutrition Programs webpage):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Food-Safety-for-Child-Nutrition-
   Programs/Documents#ChokingPrevention
Menu Planning Checklists for Lunch for Grades K-12 (CSDE's Forms for School Nutrition
   Programs webpage):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Forms-for-School-Nutrition-Programs
   #MenuPlanningChecklistsLunchGradesK-12
Menu Planning for Child Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Menu-Planning
Menu Planning for Grades K-12 in the NSLP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/MealPattern/MenuPlanningNSLP.pdf
Menu Planning for School Meals ("Related Resources" section of CSDE's Meal Patterns for Grades
   K-12 in School Nutrition Programs webpage):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Patterns-School-Nutrition-Programs/Related-
   Resources#MenuPlanningSchoolMeals
Menu Planning for Shorter or Longer Weeks (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/MealPattern/
   WeeklyAdjustmentsNSLP_SBP.pdf
Menu Planning for the Afterschool Snack Program (CSDE webpage):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Afterschool-Snack-Program/Documents#MenuPlanning
Noncreditable Foods for Grades K-12 in the ASP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/NoncreditableFoodsASP_gradesK-12.pdf
Noncreditable Foods for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/NoncreditableFoodsSNP.pdf
Overview of Menu Planning for Grades K-12 in the NSLP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/MealPattern/
   OverviewMenuPlanningNSLP_gradesK-12.pdf
Overview of Menu Planning for Grades K-12 in the SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SBP/
```

OverviewMenuPlanningSBP\_gradesK-12.pdf

Reducing the Risk of Choking in Young Children at Mealtimes (USDA): https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/reducing-risk-choking-young-children-mealtimes

Resource List for Menu Planning and Food Production in Child Nutrition Programs (CSDE): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/Resources/Resources\_Menu\_Planning.pdf

### Milk Component

Allowable Milk Substitutions for Children without Disabilities in School Nutrition Programs: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/MilkSubstitutesSNP.pdf

Comparison of Meal Pattern Requirements for the Milk Component in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/ComparisonMilkRequirementsSNP.pdf

CSDE Operational Memorandum No. 06-19: Summary of Federal and State Milk Requirements for the NSLP, SBP, SSO of the NSLP, ASP of the NSLP, and Special Milk Program (SMP): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Memos/OM2019/OM07-19.pdf

Food Buying Guide Section 5: Overview of Crediting Requirements for the Milk Component (USDA):

https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/Content/TablesFBG/USDA\_FBG\_Section5\_Milk.pdf

Food Buying Guide Section 5: Yield Table for Milk (USDA):

https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/files/Reports/USDA\_FBG\_Section5\_MilkYieldTable.pdf

Milk Component for Grades K-12 ("Documents/Forms" section of CSDE's Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition-Programs/Documents#Milk

Milk Component for Grades K-12 in the ASP ("Documents/Forms" section of the CSDE's Afterschool Snack Program webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Afterschool-Snack-Program/Documents#MilkK12

USDA Memo SP 07-2010, CACFP 04-2010 and SFSP 05-2010: Questions and Answers: Fluid Milk Substitutions:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/qas-milk-substitution-children-medical-or-special-dietary-needs-non-disability

USDA Memo SP 39-2019: Clarification on the Milk and Water Requirements in the School Meal Program:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/clarification-milk-and-water-requirements-school-meal-program

### Offer versus Serve (OVS)

```
Lunch Meal Pattern Components Poster (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition//-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/OVS/
   lunchpostercomp.pdf
Lunch Offer versus Serve Poster (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition//-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/OVS/
   lunchposterOVS.pdf
Offer versus Serve for School Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Offer-versus-Serve-for-School-Nutrition-Programs
Offer versus Serve Guide for School Meals (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition//-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/OVS/OVSguide.pdf
Offer versus Serve Lunch Poster for Elementary Schools (USDA):
   https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/OVS_ElemPoster.pdf
Offer versus Serve Lunch Poster for High Schools (USDA):
   https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/OVS_HS-Poster.pdf
Offer versus Serve Lunch Poster for Middle Schools (USDA):
    https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/OVS_MiddlePoster.pdf
Offer versus Serve NSLP Posters (USDA):
   https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/offer-versus-serve-national-school-lunch-program-posters
Offer versus Serve Tip Sheet for School Food Service Managers: National School Lunch Program
   (USDA):
   http://https//fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/
   OVS%20Lunch%20tip%20sheet.pdf
Offer versus Serve Tip Sheet for School Food Service Managers: School Breakfast Program
   (USDA):
   https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/
   OVS%20Breakfast%20tip%20she
Overview of Offer versus Serve in the NSLP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/OVS/
   Overview_OVS_NSLP.pdf.
Overview of Offer versus Serve in the SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/OVS/
   Overview_OVS_SBP.pdf
USDA Memo SP 35-2011 and CACFP 23-2011: Clarification on the Use of Offer versus Serve and
   Family Style Meal Service:
   https://www.fns.usda.gov/clarification-use-offer-vs-serve-and-family-style-meal-service
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USDA Memo SP 41-2015: Updated Offer vs Serve Guidance for the NSLP and SBP Beginning SY 2015-16:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/updated-offer-vs-serve-guidance-nslp-and-sbp-beginning-sy2015-16

#### **Product Formulation Statements**

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains in Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Grains\_Oz\_Eq\_Fillable\_508.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains in Child Nutrition Programs

- Completed Sample (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/

PFS\_Example\_Grains\_Oz\_Eq.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains/Breads Servings in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, and NSLP Afterschool Snacks (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Grains-Breads\_Servings\_Fillable\_508.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains/Breads Servings in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, and NSLP Afterschool Snacks – Completed Sample (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Example\_Grains-Breads\_Servings.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Meats/Meat Alternates (M/MA) in Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Meats-Meat\_Alternates\_Fillable\_508.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Meats/Meat Alternates (M/MA) in Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Meats-Meat\_Alternates\_Fillable\_508.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in School Meal Programs (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/ PFS\_Veg\_Subgroups\_Fruits\_Fillable\_508.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in School Meal Programs: Completed Sample for Vegetables (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFSsamplevegetables.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in School Meal Programs: Completed Sample for Fruits (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFSsamplefruits.pdf

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, and NSLP Afterschool Snacks (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\_Total\_Veg\_Fruits\_Fillable\_508.pdf

Product Formulation Statements (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/PFS.pdf

Reviewer's Checklist for Evaluating Manufacturer Product Formulation Statements for Meat/Meat Alternates (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/reviewer\_checklist.pdf

Tips for Evaluating a Manufacturer's Product Formulation Statement (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/manufacturerPFStipsheet.pdf

#### **Production Records**

Production Records for School Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Production-Records-for-School-Nutrition-Programs

Requirements for Production Records in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Forms/ProdRecord/ProductionRecords.pdf

### **Vegetables Component**

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Beans (ICN and USDA):
   https://theicn.org/cnss/menu-planning/beans/
Crediting Juice for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/
   CreditJuiceSNPgradesK-12.pdf
Crediting Legumes in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditLegumesSNP.pdf
Crediting Smoothies for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/
   CreditSmoothiesSNPgradesK-12.pdf
Crediting Soups in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditSoupSNP.pdf
CSDE Operational Memorandum No. 07-19: Compliance Issues with the Vegetables and
   Fruits Components for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP:
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Memos/OM2019/OM07-19.pdf
Food Buying Guide Section 2: Overview of Crediting Requirements for the Vegetables
   Component (USDA):
   https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/Content/TablesFBG/USDA_FBG_Section2_
   Vegetables.pdf
Food Buying Guide Section 2: Yield Table for Vegetables (USDA):
   https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/files/Reports/USDA_FBG_Section2_Vegetables
   YieldTable.pdf
Portion Guide for Fresh Vegetables (Start with Half a Cup):
   https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SWHAC/PortionGuideVeg85x14.pdf
Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in School Meal
   Programs (USDA):
   https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/
   PFS_Veg_Subgroups_Fruits_Fillable_508.pdf
Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in School Meal
   Programs: Completed Sample for Vegetables (USDA):
   https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFSsamplevegetables.pdf
Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in School Meal
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https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFSsamplefruits.pdf

Programs: Completed Sample for Fruits (USDA):

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Vegetables and Fruits in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, and NSLP Afterschool Snacks (USDA):

https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/ PFS\_Total\_Veg\_Fruits\_Fillable\_508.pdf

USDA Memo SP 26-2019, CACFP 13-2019 and SFSP 12-2019: Crediting Pasta Products Made of Vegetable Flour in the Child Nutrition Programs:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/crediting-pasta-products-made-vegetable-flour-child-nutrition-programs

USDA Memo SP 40-2019, CACFP 17-2019 and SFSP 17-2019: Smoothies Offered in Child Nutrition Programs:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/smoothies-offered-child-nutrition-programs

Vegetable Subgroups in the NSLP (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/VegetableSubgroupsNSLP.pdf

Vegetables Component for Grades K-12 ("Documents/Forms" section of CSDE's Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition-Programs/Documents#Vegetables

Vegetables/Fruits Component for Grades K-12 in the ASP ("Documents/Forms" section of the CSDE's Afterschool Snack Program webpage):

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Afterschool-Snack-Program/Documents#VegetablesFruitsK12

Webinar: Crediting Vegetable Noodles and Coconut in the Child Nutrition Programs (USDA): https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/crediting-vegetable-noodles-and-coconut-child-nutrition-programs



For more information, visit the CSDE's Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs and Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs webpages, or contact the school nutrition programs staff in the CSDE's Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This document is available at https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/MealPattern/Resources\_School\_Meal\_Patterns\_grades\_K-12.pdf.

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   Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
   1400 Independence Avenue, SW
   Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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